

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 NEA-11 DRC-01 /115 W

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R 251635Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5337

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

BELFAST

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, EI

SUBJ: PROVOS HIJACK HELICOPTER FOR ATTACK IN NI

1. PROVISIONAL IRA ON JANUARY 24 HIJACKED HELICOPTER OWNED BY PRIVATE COMPANY IN DOEGAL. HELICOPTER WAS USED TO DROP HOMEMADE BOMBS IN MILD CHURNS ON POLICE/ARMY BARRACKS JUST ACROSS NI BORDER IN STRABANE, COUNTY TYRONE. BOMBS FAILED EXPLODE BUT ADVENTURE, CLUMSY AS IT WAS, HAS PROVIDED ANOTHER PROPAGANDA BOOST FOR PROVOS. GOI IS VISIBLY EMBARRASSED, ESPECIALLY SINCE THIS IS SECOND HIJACKING FROM SAME FIRM (SEE DUBLIN 1456), AND SINCE IT FOLLOWED CLOSELY ON VEHEMENTLY ANTI-IRA SPEECH BY JUSTICE MINISTER (DUBLIN 0086). OPPOSITION FIANNA FAIL PARTY IS SUCCESSFULLY EXPLOITING INCIDENT. STATEMENT BY SHADOW MINISTER FOR JUSTICE SAYS THAT JUSTICE MINISTER COONEY'S WORDS "RING VERY HOLLOW."

COMMENT: THIS KIND OF INCIDENT IS, OF COURSE, MUCH EASIER TO DEPLORE IN HINDSIGHT THAN TO PREVENT. NEVERTHELESS, GOI HAS REASON TO BE EMBARRASSED, AND WE SURMISE THAT COSGRAVE WILL BE LOOKING HARD FOR WAYS TO DEMONSTRATE SINCERITY OF ANTI-IRA FEELINGS. SINCE INCIDENT DID NOT KILL ANYONE, THERE IS INEVITABLE HUMAN

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TENDENCY TO LAUGH AT OPERA-BOUFFE ASPECTS. WE DO NOT DOUBT, HOWEVER, THAT PROVOS INTENDED BOMBS TO EXPLODE. HAD THEY

DONE SO, THEY COULD HAVE DONE EXTENSIVE DAMAGE, SINCE THEY
MISSED BARRACKS AND LANDED IN SETTLED AREA.
MOORE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, PARAMILITARY FORCES, HELICOPTERS, UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974DUBLIN00135
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: DUBLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740116/aaaaaotj.tel
Line Count: 64
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Channel Indicators:
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
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Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
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Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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TAGS: PINT, EI, IRA
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Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005